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## Congress of the United States House of Representatives

Washington, **BC** 20515–0550 May 8, 2007 COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM

COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

HOUSE REPUBLICAN POLICY COMMITTEE

IMMIGRATION REFORM CAUCUS, CHAIRMAN

✓ In Favor of Increased Transparency in our Spending Decisions?

✓ Want to Control Congressional Earmarks?

✓ Want to Provide Rank-and-File Members with More Tools?

## ✓ Cosponsor H.R. 1733The Appropriations Transparency Act

## Dear Colleague:

Recently, I introduced H.R. 1733, the Appropriations Transparency Act of 2007. This legislation would work to reduce the number of earmarks that are "airdropped" into conference by creating a parliamentary roadblock during floor consideration of conference committee reports. To accomplish this, H.R. 1733 allows a Member to raise a point-of-order against consideration of a conference report that includes any spending earmark or tax earmark not committed to conference by either the House or Senate.

As the FY08 appropriations season begins, I ask you to consider cosponsoring this good government legislation, which will provide rank-and-file Members with another tool to reduce wasteful government spending.

Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions or would like to cosponsor this bill, please contact me or my Legislative Director, Amy Smith, at 202-225-0508.

Sincerely,

Brian P. Bilbray

Member of Congres